REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312, entrance of this amendment is respectfully requested. Upon entrance of this amendment, allowed method claims 1 and 3-19 will remain in the application.

The amendment presented herewith does not require any substantial work on the part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. No additional search or examination of the claims is required or needs to be performed. Further, the scope of the allowed method claims is not changed by the amendment presented herewith. By this amendment, the apparatus and computer program product claims (20, 22-39 and 41-56) are cancelled without prejudice to the re-filing thereof in a separate continuation application. This amendment is submitted to place all method claims in one patent, and move the other classes of statutory subject matter to a continuation application. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the cancelled claims in one or more continuations.

In view of the foregoing comments, Applicants respectfully request that the above-described amendment be entered and that the application be issued. The Issue Fee Payment will be submitted separately.

Should the Examiner wish to have a telephone conference regarding this amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley D Ference III Registration No. 33,879

Customer No. 47049
FERENCE & ASSOCIATES LLC
409 Broad Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15143
(412) 741-8400
(412) 741-9292 - Facsimile

Attorneys for Applicants